RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER JUL () 6 2006

OFFICICAL RESPONSE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. DEP0546

Inventor: Serial No.: Serhan et al.

09/822,126

March 30, 2001

Filed: Title:

Intervertebral Connection System

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Manahan, Todd E.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the USPTO at 571-273-8300 on July 6, 2006.

Amy Schick

_(signature)

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

NO. OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 27

Thomas M. DiMauro
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DePuy Spine Inc. 325 Paramount Drive Raynham, Mass. 02767-0350

Docket No. DEP-0546

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED Group Art Unit: 3732 Serhan et al. Inventor: **CENTRAL FAX CENTER** Manahan, Todd E. Examiner: Scrial No.: 09/822,126 Filed: March 30, 2001 JUL 0.8 2008 Title: Intervertebral Connection System CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box Quily 6, 2006 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on (signature) (name of Registered Representative) Thomas M. DiMauro To: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 NOTICE OF APPEAL Applicant(s) hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner dated January 9, 2006 finally rejecting Claims 1,5-12,30,36-39,67-72 and 81 of the above-identified application. The item(s) checked below are appropriate: An extension of time to respond to the final rejection was granted on for 1. month(s). A Petition For Extension Of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 is attached hereto in triplicate. A timely response to the final rejection has been filed. 3. Fee \$500.00: for filing of Notice of Appeal 4. Not required (fee paid in prior appeal) 図 Charge to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-0546/TMD. Two additional copies of this Notice are enclosed herewith. X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be

Respectfully submitted,

required, or credit any overpayment in connection herewith to Deposit Account No.

07/07/2006 MGEBREM1 00000054 100750 09822126

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Thomas M. DiMauro Reg. No. 35,490

-Attorney for Applicant(s)

Mens 7-606

One Johnson & Johnson Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003 (508) 880-8401 Date: July 5, 2006

Docket No. DEP-0546

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Invento Serial N		Scrhan et al. 09/822,126	Group Art Unit: Examiner:	3732 Manahan, Todd E.	RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER
Filed: Title:		March 30, 2001 Intervertebral Connection S			JUL 0 6 2006
1450, А <i>Сүү</i> Атау S		hereby certify that this coloria, VA 22313-1450 on	July 6, 2006	÷	er for Patents, PO Box
To:	P.O. B	sioner for Patents ox 1450 dria, VA 22313-1450	NOTICE OF APPEA	<u>r</u>	
	on of	ant(s) hereby appeal the Examiner dated Janua ove-identified applicati	ry 9, 2006 finally:		
	The it	em(s) checked below are	appropriate:		
1.		An extension of time month(s).	to respond to the i	Einal rejection was gr	canted on for
2.		A Petition For Extentriplicate.	sion Of Time under	r 37 CFR 1.136 is	attached hereto in
з.	x	A timely response to th	e final rejection ha	as been filed.	
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			Respectful	ly submitted,	•
			Thomas M. Reg. No. 3 Attorney f	DiMauro	7.6.06

One Johnson & Johnson Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003

(508) 880-8401 Date: July 5, 2006